

**FIVE COUNTY
LOCAL HOMELESS COORDINATING COMMITTEE**

Minutes
April 21, 2010
11:30 am-1 p.m.

**Five County Association of Governments
Conference Room
1070 West 1600 South Bldg B
St. George, UT 84770**

<u>MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:</u>	<u>REPRESENTING:</u>
Council Member Ben Nickel	St. George City Council
Bob Green	Washington County School District
Colleen Tucker	Job Corps
Faye Habbard	Department of Workforce Services
Frank Yoder	Resource & Re-entry Center
Heidi Miller	Cedar City Housing Authority
Holly Malnar	DOVE Center
Keisha Gaywell (on phone)	St. George Housing Authority
Lloyd Pendleton (on phone)	State Office of Community and Culture
Michelle Post	Erin Kimball Memorial Foundation
Paula Claymore	Paiute Indian Tribe of Utah
Ray Sim	Iron County Care and Share
Sherri Dial	Five County AOG
Stephanie Volker	Southwest Center Behavioral Health
<u>EXCUSED</u>	
Richard Rivera	St. George Soup Kitchen
Chuck Goode	Grace Episcopal Church
Anne Yero	Canyon Creek Women's Crisis Center
LuWenn Jones	Disability Law Center & Utah DD Council
<u>ABSENT</u>	
Kara Coop	Dixie Care and Share

Welcome

St. George City Council Member Ben Nickel welcomed everyone and introduced himself. He was raised in Southern Utah and worked with the poor and underprivileged. He served an LDS mission on the Sioux Indian Reservation in the Dakota's and when he returned he has been working with Troubled youth. Currently Council Member Nickel is working with the Cinnamon Hills Troubled Youth facility. Many of the kids are wards of the state. It is difficult work but very rewarding.

The weather has made it difficult for everyone to come to the meeting.

Introduction & brief description of organizations purpose and resources:

Lloyd Pendleton called in from Salt Lake City where he works for the state of Utah Division of Community and Culture. He retired from the LDS Church and now has worked for the state for four years. Lloyd invited Council Member Nickel to come and visit the programs in SLC

Frank Yoder with Resource and Re-Entry Center would like to present at the end of the meeting so he can show his power point presentation.

Heidi Miller is from the Cedar City Housing Authority. CCHA attend s this meeting as a requirement of the HUD Continuum of Care Balance of State (BOS). She is a member of the State Homeless Coordinating Committee representing the BOS.

Michelle Post is representing the Erin Kimball Memorial Foundation. She has been with the foundation for about 5 months. EKMF is a transitional housing foundation for people who are fleeing domestic violence. They are currently working with about 20 families. Because of new funding the doubled the size in January and intend to double again by the end of the year.

Faye Hubbard is a supervisor at the Department of Workforce Services. They provide resources for clients including some homeless prevention. DWS has had many changes and Teresa Banks is now in charge. Their offices are in St. George behind Café Rio.

Lloyd Pendleton talked about the point in time count (PIT). They are currently putting together all the information and are shooting to release the final numbers by the end of the month. The PIT numbers are annualized and the five county numbers have increase to 916 homeless through the year. This is a 47 % increase. Some of the reasons are because more people are involved in the count. Heidi felt the number were accurate because of the economy and because of the increase in agencies. Ray felt the economy had a great impact on the increase in numbers.

Keisha Graywell representing the St. George Housing Authority is the new Director. They administer the Section 8 voucher program and they have 244 vouchers. We maintain a constant waiting list and plan to reopen the list in July. There are 100 people on the list and the wait is about 6 month to a year. There are also 30 housing units for seniors the wait for these is about 6 months to a year and the clients need to be 62 to qualify. They also have an emergency fund provided by Heritage Bank this is a once in a life time grant to help with rent. To qualify the

person has to have income to show they can pay the rent the next month. The economy has reduced the number of individual who leave the section program.

Stephanie Volker with the Southwest Center Behavioral Health. We are the mental health and substance abuse program for the five county area. There are offices in all five counties and we are the Medicaid provider. We provide psychiatric therapy, substance abuse counseling, case management, group, residential, and day treatment. Residential treatment is based on availability.

Holly Malnar is represented the DOVE Center. They are working on outreach to the community in Washington County. This is the Domestic Violence shelter providing a range of services including groups for children and rape counseling. The Dove center has 4 full time and 2 part time day staff and then there is a part time night staff. There are many volunteers.

Colleen Tucker is the admissions counselor for Job Corps in the five county area. Job Corps is a free trade school that is federally funded for individual 15-24 years old. They must be low-income individuals and under privileged. One of the programs is for young parents it provides housing, transportation, childcare, food, pay and training. 6-8 people a month enter job corps in the five county area.

Paula Claymore works with the Piute Indian Tribe of Utah. There are 10 employees in the behavioral care department and 1 mental health worker. All are licensed and certified. They do mental health evaluation and treatment plans. We work with the Piute tribal member. However we do some classes that are open to the community. Free parenting classes are open to everyone. Child care is provided for the classes. There is a clinic and an education department that offers scholarships. Looking for foster care parents.

Ray Sim is the executive director of the Iron County Care and Share. The ICCS has a homeless shelter, transitional housing for single individual and a food pantry. Also offered is the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing (HPRP) offered by the State office of Community and Culture. There are also TANF funds to help with housing for families. We are working to build a new homeless shelter.

HPRP subcommittee information

Ray Sim

We are still using all of the funding that is available. The biggest problem is that the funding is limited and it is difficult to wait for re-imbursement of the funds. This cash flow situation makes it difficult to use all the money.

Lloyd will do some follow up on the funds to see if there is any flexibility. They can file for funds 2 time a month.

Frank mentioned that people in Washington County are having problems working with the Dixie Care and Share.

Heidi suggested working with a local bank to carry some of the funding for 1-2% interest. State Bank has been helpful along with other financial organizations

Continuum of Care/ Balance of State

Heidi Miller

The COC/BOS- There is an entitlement funding for the State of Utah. They receive about \$7 million. The funding fluctuates and there is a rating system. The most current funding is with Southwest Center. HUD requires attendance at certain meetings to qualify for funding the LHCC is one of the meetings that programs are required to attend. HUD has decided not to fund supportive services. The funding is fairly limited currently and there is some new funding available. The funding is often based on the dollars per client. Sometimes HUD decides to only fund sticks and bricks.

BOS has lost the funding for an employee.

State information

Lloyd Pendleton

Point in time (PIT)- the point in time is a once a year count of people who are homeless. This year it was January 29. And every year they do the count about the same time of year. Then they multiple the number by 5 and that is what determines the annualization of the count. We do the count every year. The chronic homeless numbers for the state have reduced this year even though the short term homeless has increased. HMIS is a way to track the homeless in the state. There are several basic categories that are required to count.

Housing First lost their funding for the 4 units and the individual who transitioned to section 8 housing.

Bob Green with the Washington School District. He wanted to discuss the problems with the funding to get a family into housing in Washington County. He has referred people to Billie at the Dixie Care and Share yet the families are having a hard time getting through the process. There is a bug problem at the Dixie C&S.

There has been a lot of problem getting the Dixie Care and Share to interact with the other agencies in the area. We are encouraging Kara to have regular meetings. Michele had questions about how to access the funding. Lloyd said the HPRP money could be used to pay the deposit for the apartments at the EKMF.

Dixie C&S might benefit from talking to Lani Nesbit and other programs. Heidi feels like the LHCC have exhausted their ability to suggest that the Dixie Care and Share coordinate with other programs. It should be good for the state to step in and make some suggestions. Lloyd will follow up.

The packet is huge and if they don't have a job etc, they are denied help. It seems like an impossible process.

Holly from the DOVE Center is also concerned about the availability to get an appointment with Billie. There are many road blocks to the process.

Case management hours were included in the HPRP funds. The hours that they are open are not convenient for people who need help. Bob and Paula both are concerned about the hours of

operation and the fact that they are not always open even when they say they will be open. Even if they would put a note on the door if they are not open during the hours posted.

Other

Approval of the Minutes Paula moved to approve the minutes from the last meeting. Frank 2nd. And it was passed unanimously.

Frank Yoder presented the Power point presentation about the Resource and Re-entry program (10 minutes). R&RC is a wrap around service helping individual s trying to reenter society. The greatest problem is employment and they are working to create employment programs.

Adjourn the meeting

Next meeting: June 16, 2010